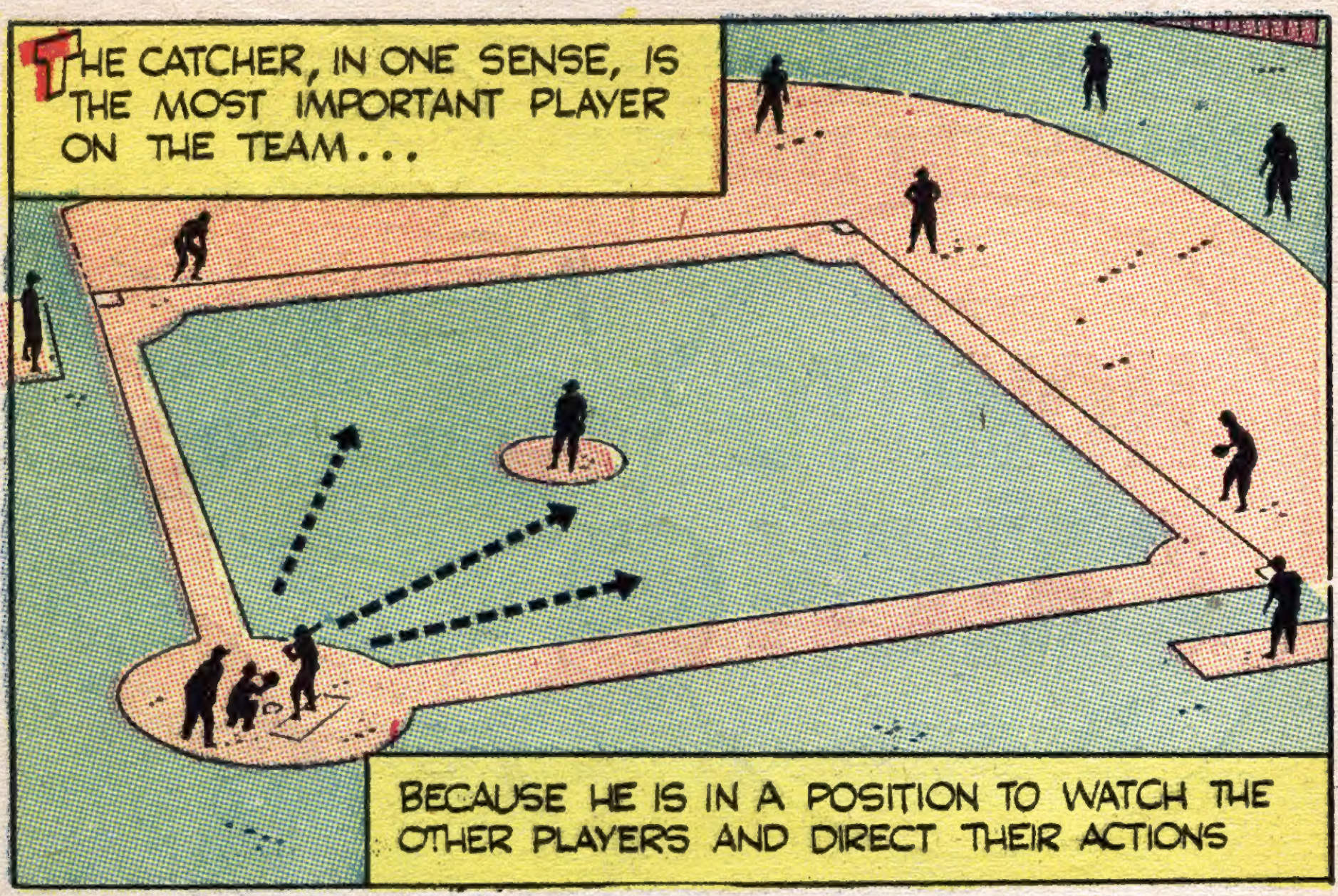
FINER POINTS OF

BASEBALL FOR EVERYONE

HOW TO CATCH

HINTS FOR LITTLE, JUNIOR, MIDGET, BABE RUTH PLAYERS


THE CATCHER, IN ONE SENSE, IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PLAYER ON THE TEAM...
BECAUSE HE IS IN A POSITION TO WATCH THE OTHER PLAYERS AND DIRECT THEIR ACTIONS

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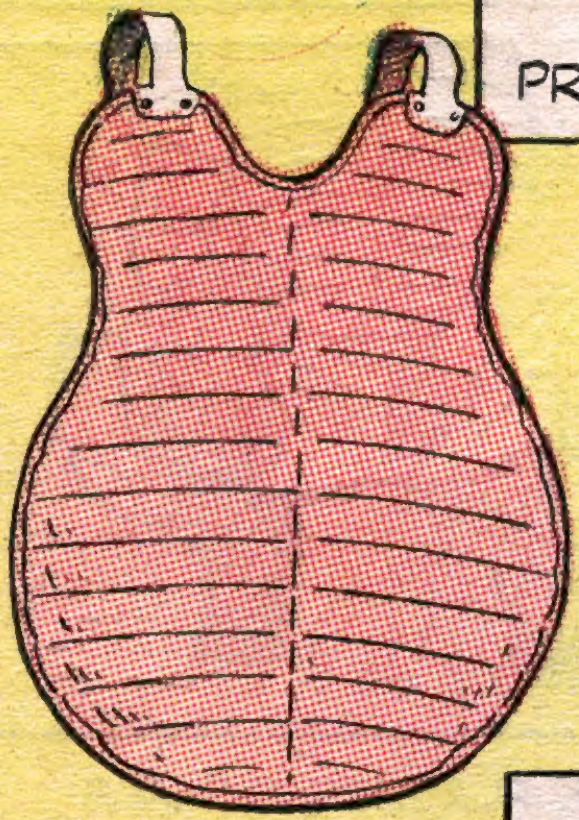
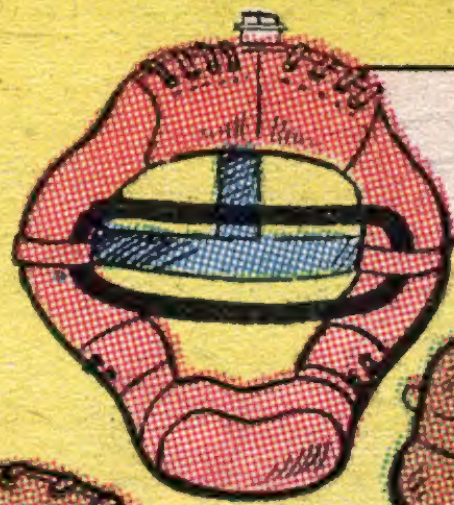
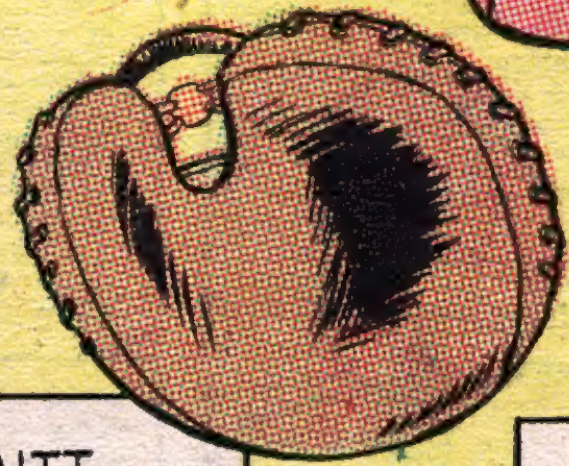
HERE IS THE CATCHER'S EQUIPMENT:



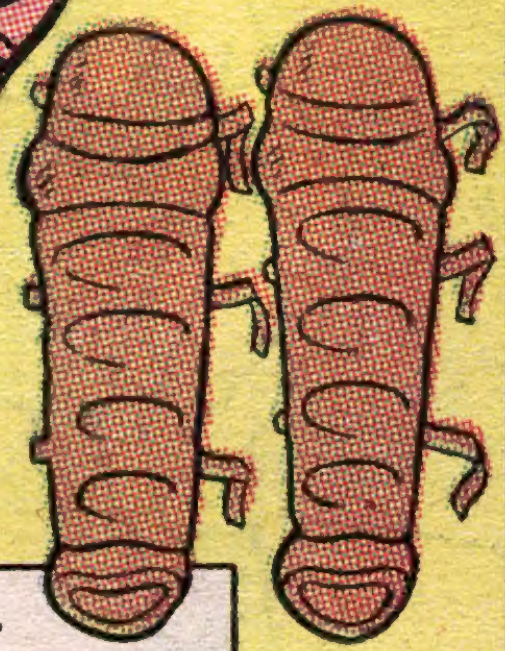
BODY PROTECTOR



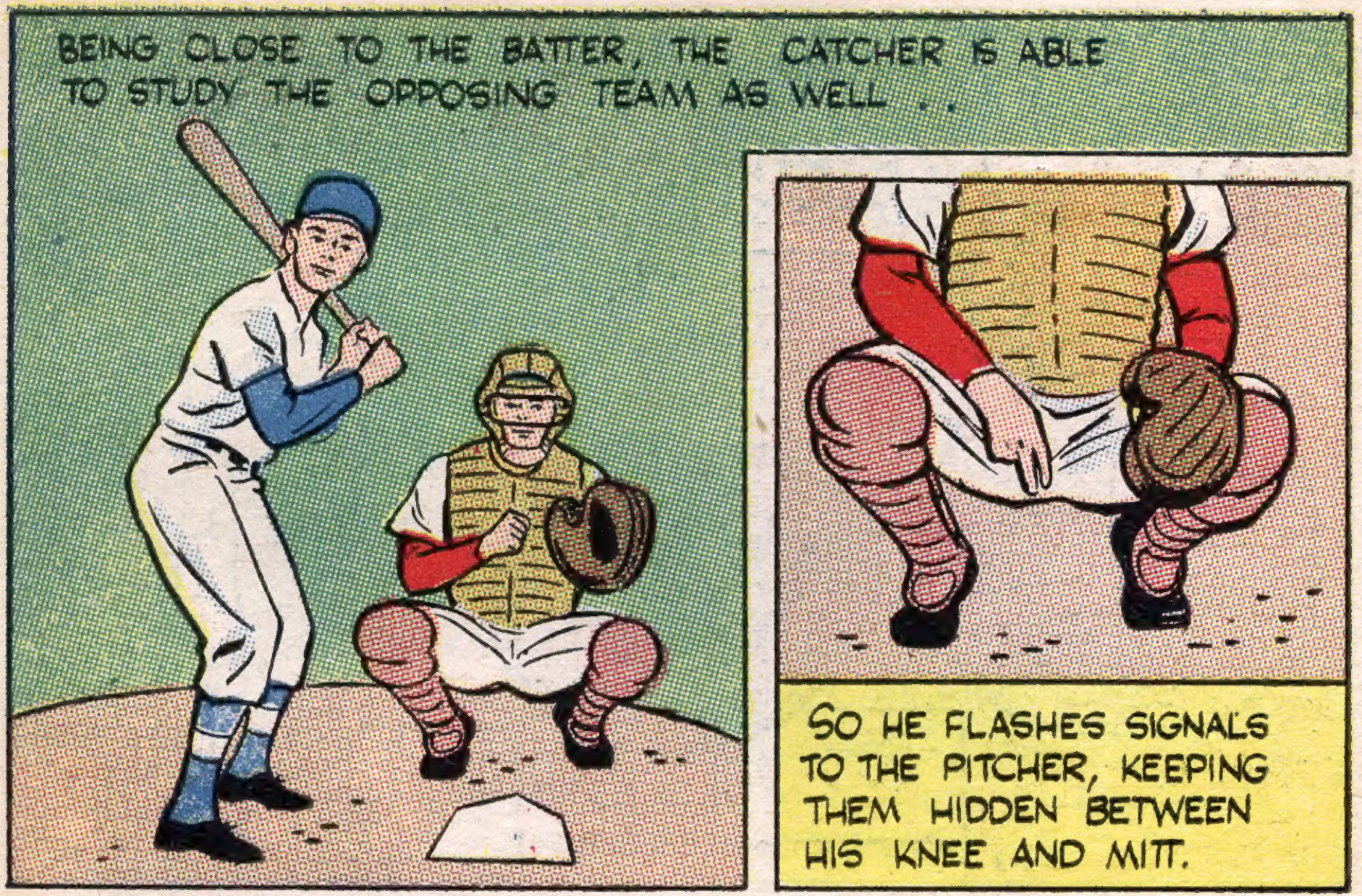
MASK

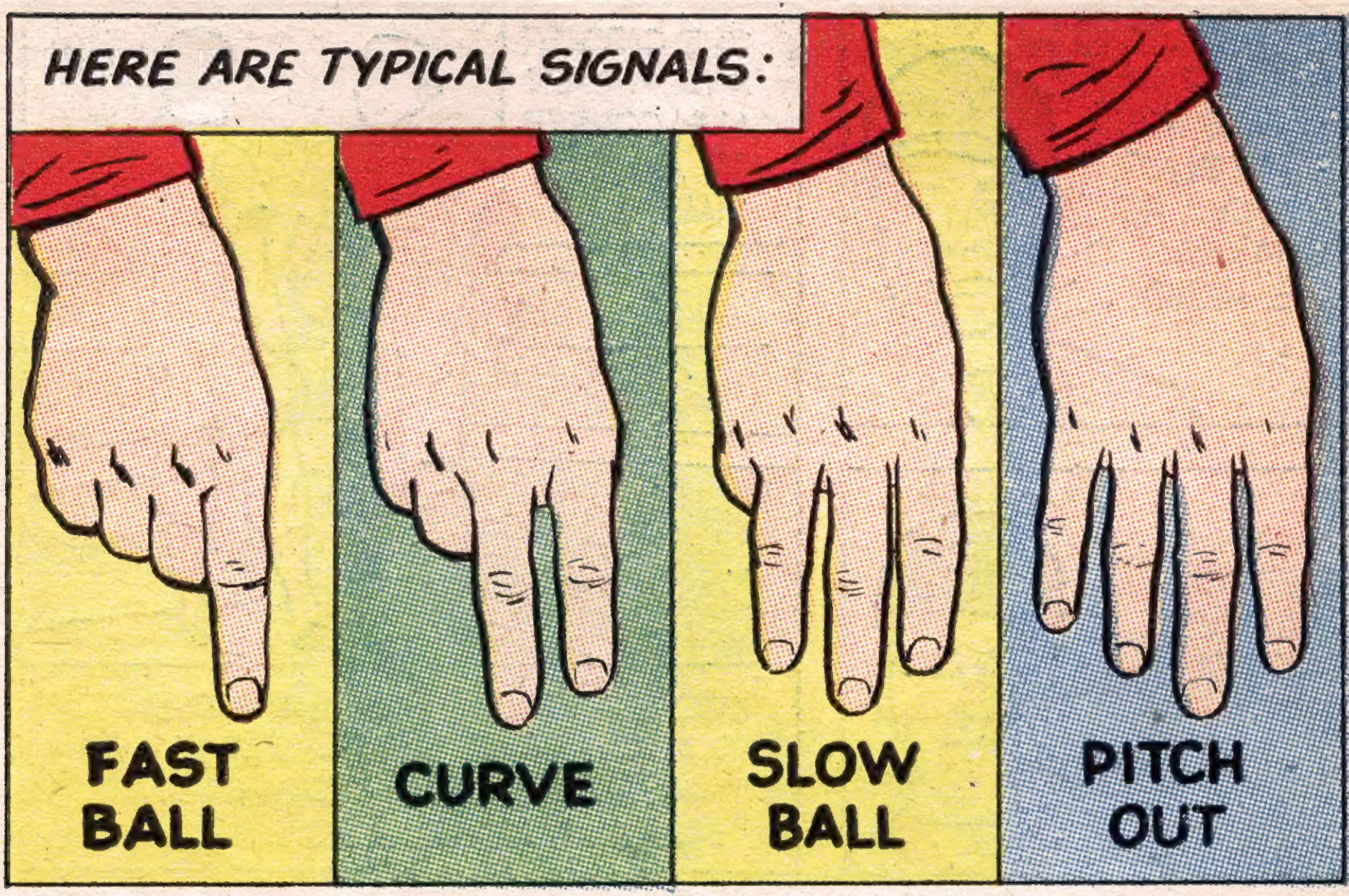


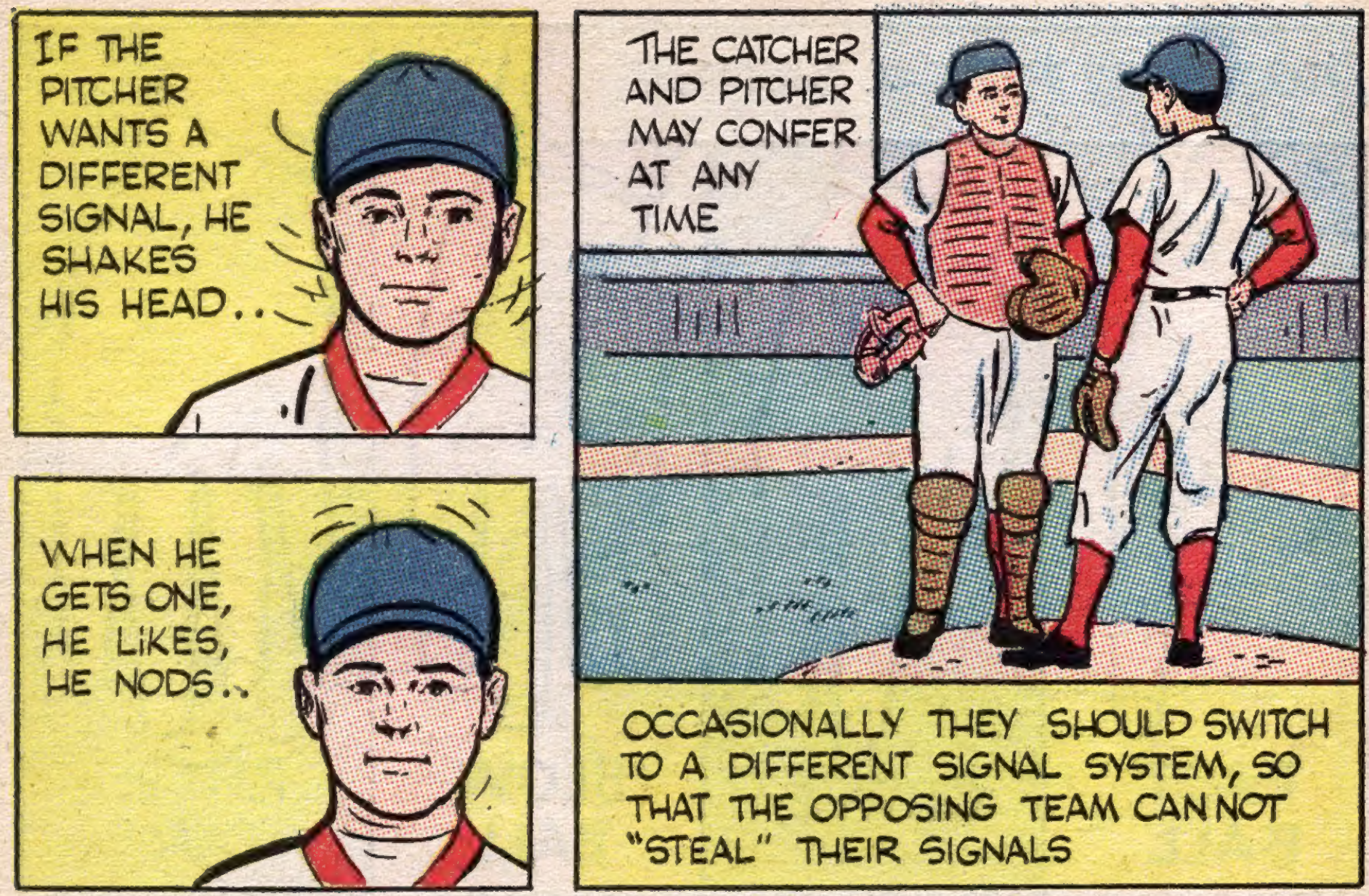
MITT



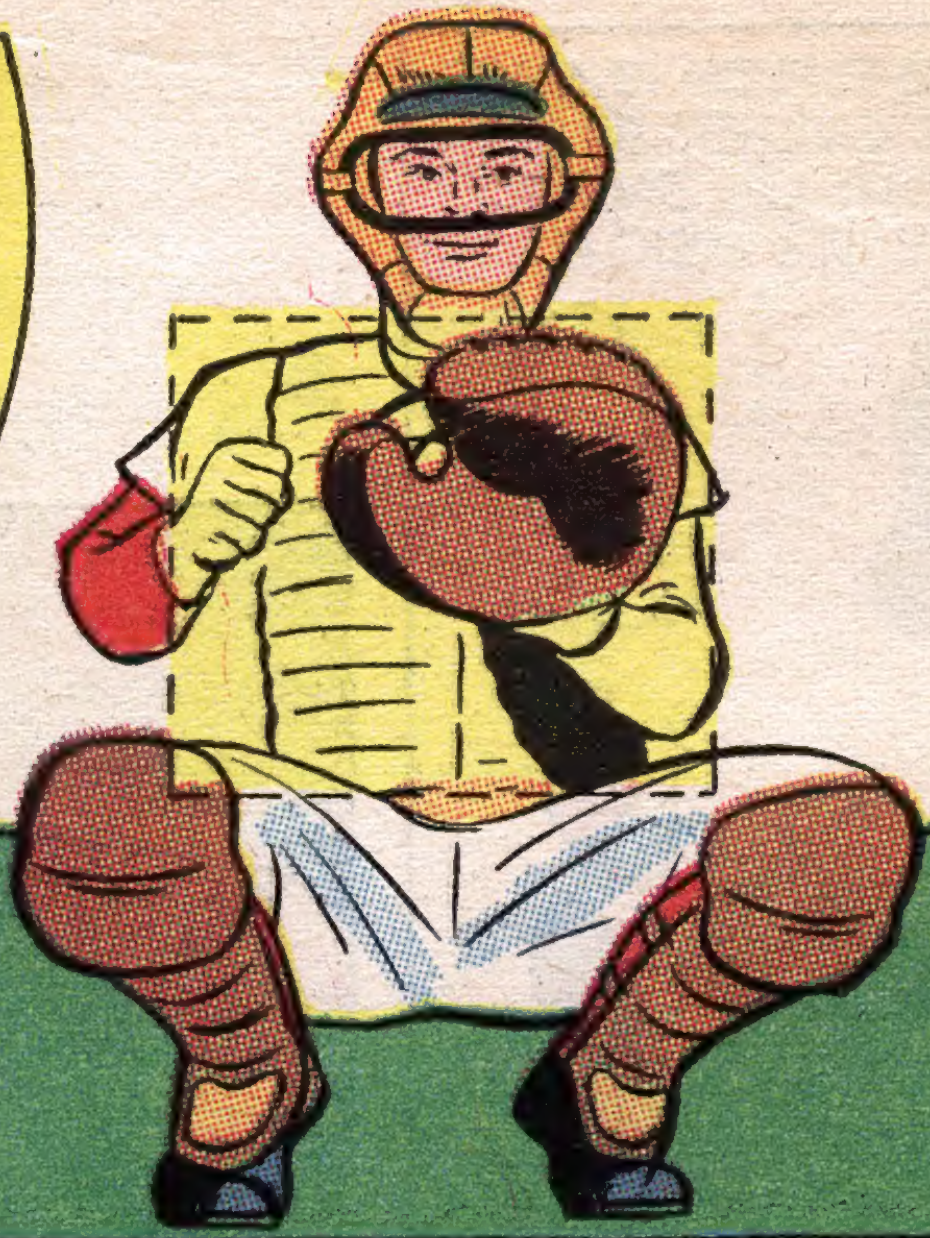
LEG GUARDS


BEING CLOSE TO THE BATTER, THE CATCHER IS ABLE TO STUDY THE OPPOSING TEAM AS WELL . .
SO HE FLASHES SIGNALS TO THE PITCHER, KEEPING THEM HIDDEN BETWEEN HIS KNEE AND MITT.

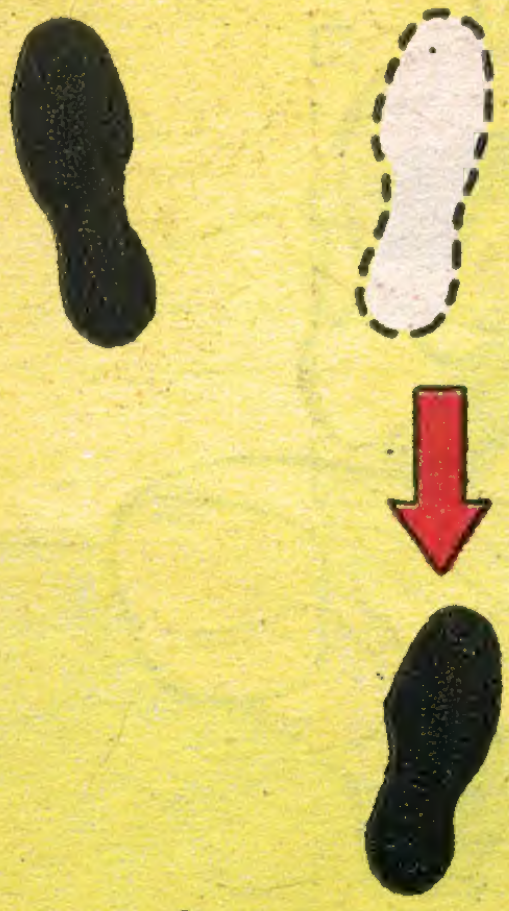

HERE ARE TYPICAL SIGNALS:
FAST BALL
CURVE
SLOW BALL
PITCH OUT

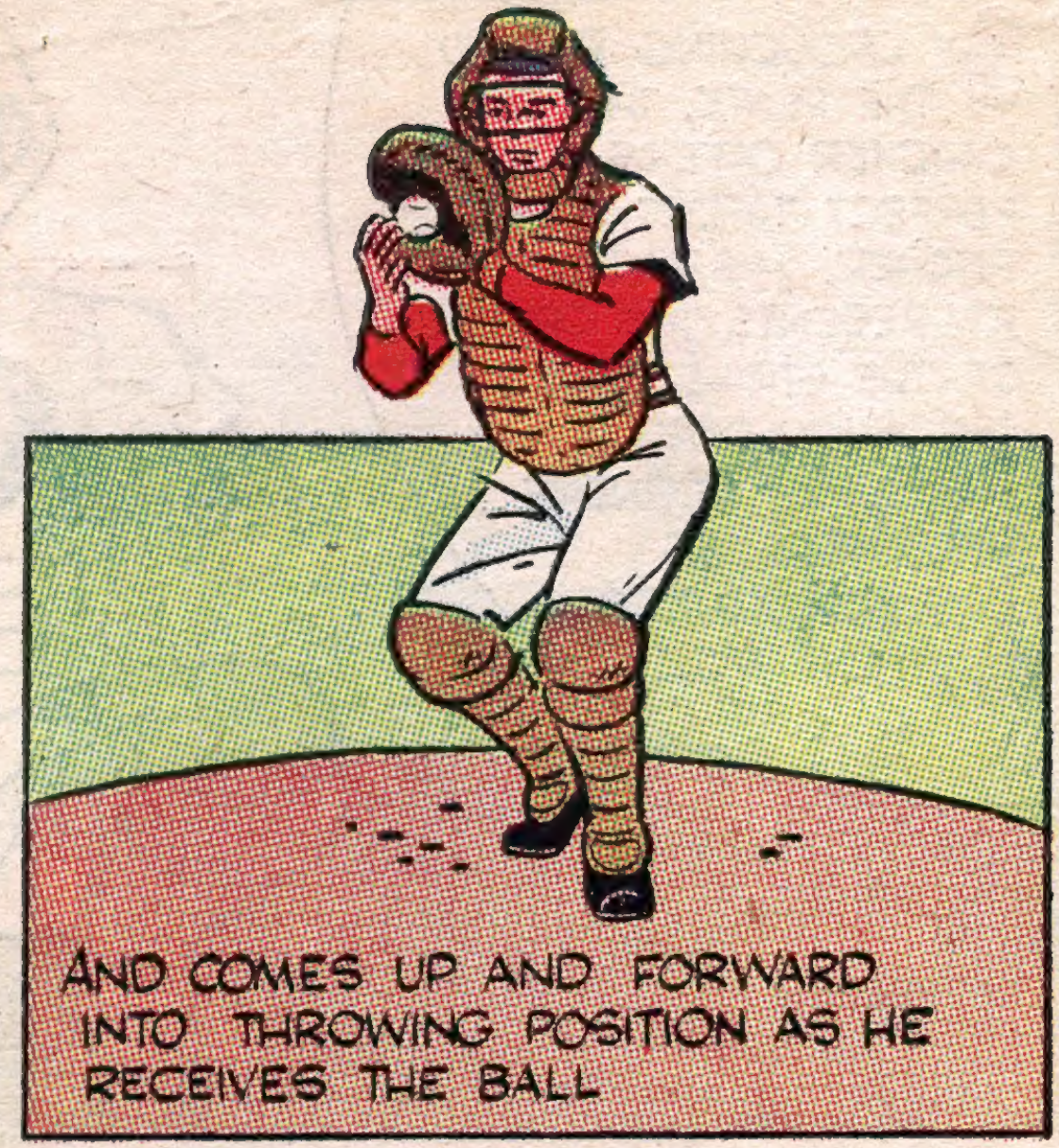

IF THE PITCHER WANTS A DIFFERENT SIGNAL, HE SHAKES HIS HEAD..
WHEN HE GETS ONE, HE LIKES, HE NODS..
THE CATCHER AND PITCHER MAY CONFER AT ANY TIME
OCCASIONALLY THEY SHOULD SWITCH TO A DIFFERENT SIGNAL SYSTEM, SO THAT THE OPPOSING TEAM CAN NOT "STEAL" THEIR SIGNALS

BY CROUCHING BEHIND THE PLATE, THE CATCHER OFFERS A PERFECT TARGET TO THE PITCHER. HIS MITT REPRESENTS THE CENTER OF THE STRIKE ZONE .. HIS SHOULDERS ITS UPPER CORNERS .. HIS KNEES ITS LOWER CORNERS

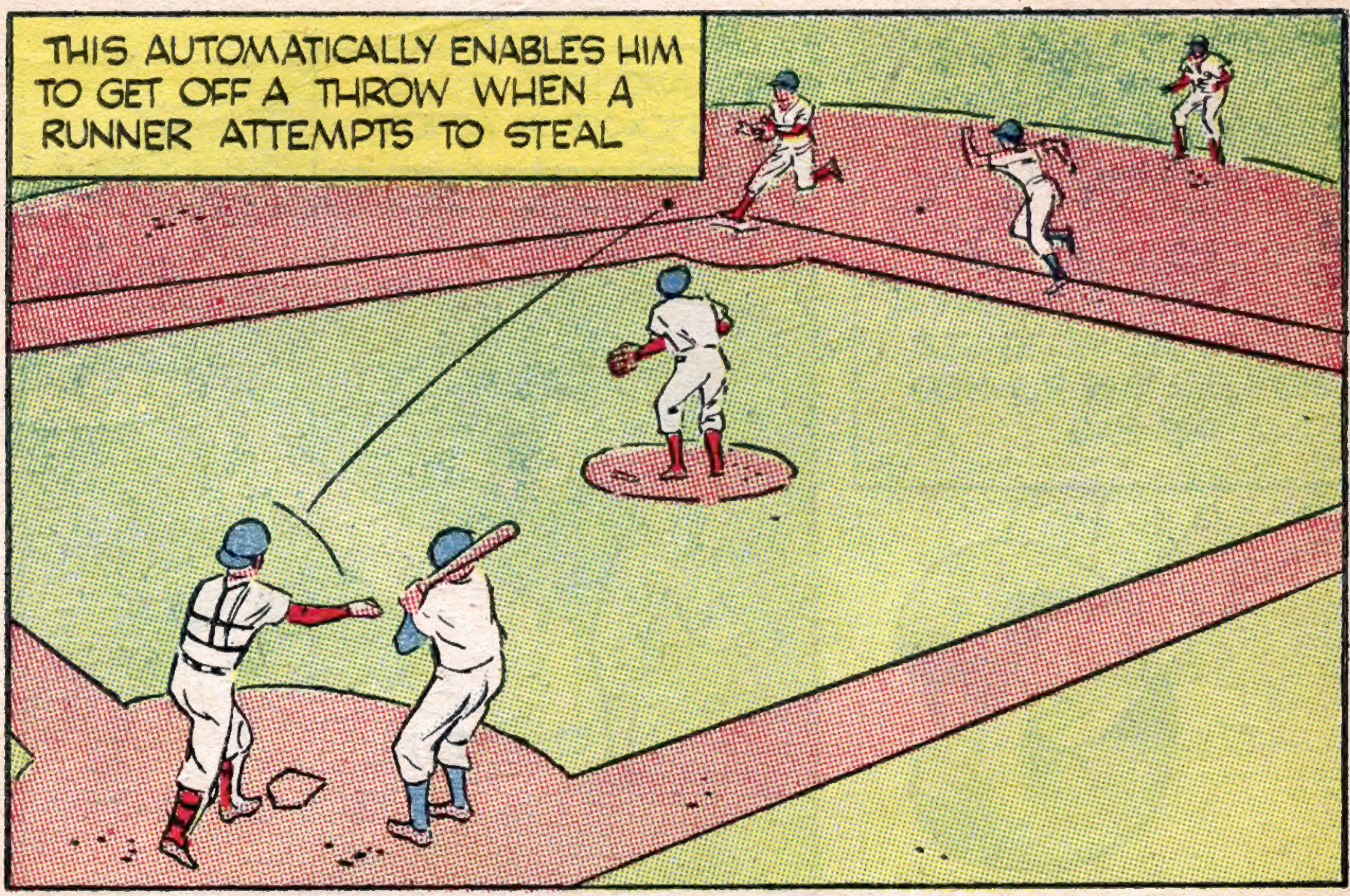


AS THE PITCH IS MADE, THE CATCHER SHIFTS HIS RIGHT LEG BACK TO RECEIVE HIS WEIGHT



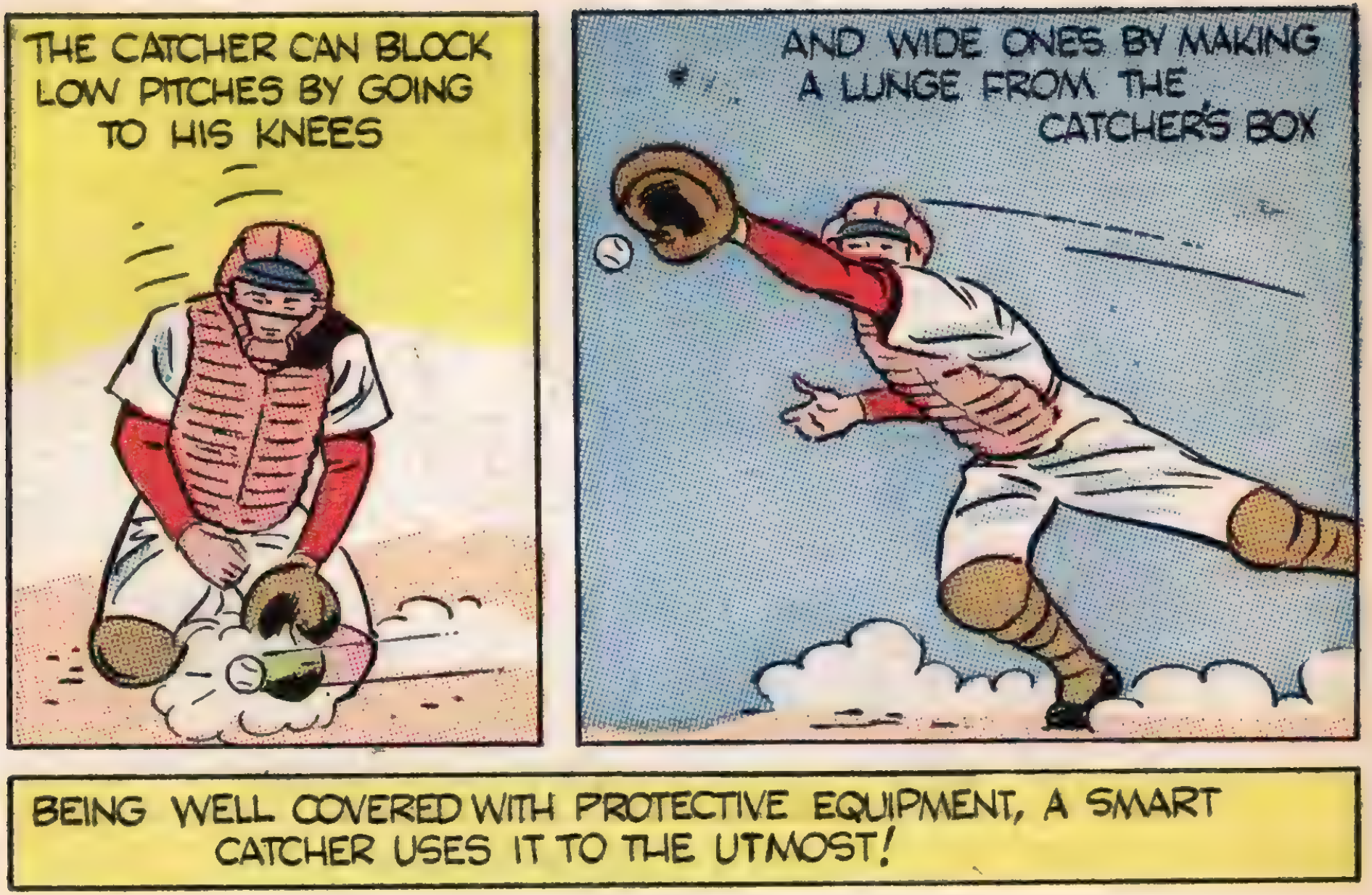


AND COMES UP AND FORWARD INTO THROWING POSITION AS HE RECEIVES THE BALL


THIS AUTOMATICALLY ENABLES HIM TO GET OFF A THROW WHEN A RUNNER ATTEMPTS TO STEAL

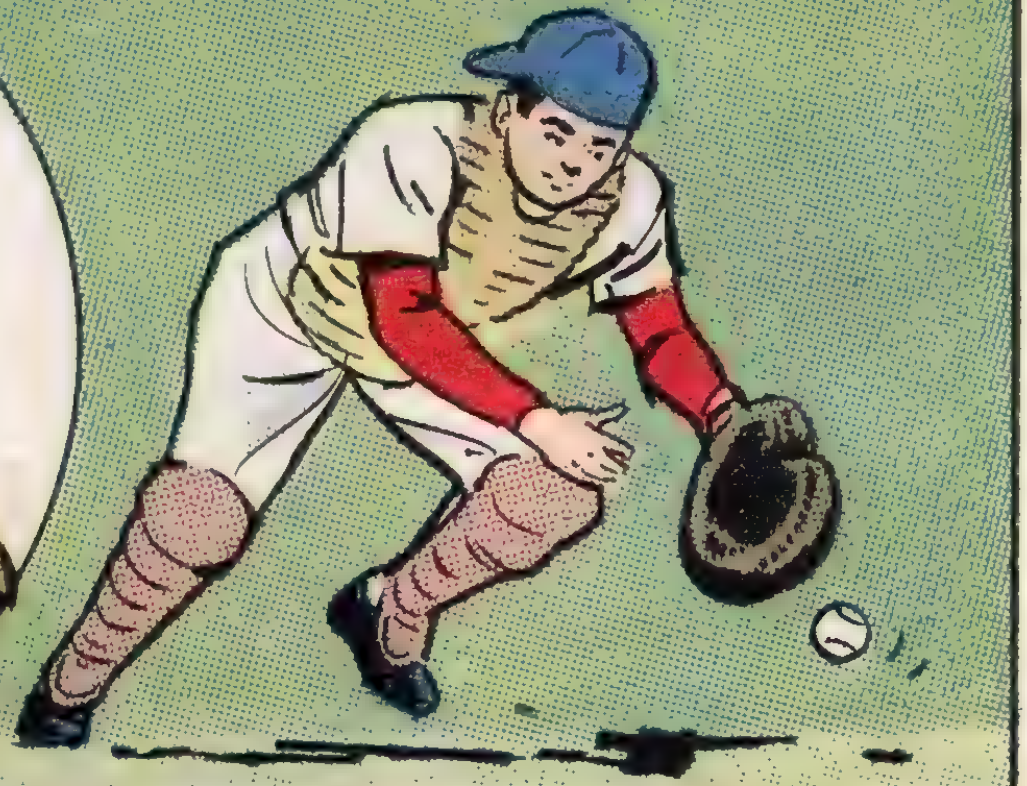
WHEN THE CATCHER THINKS A STEAL IS COMING, HE CAN SIGNAL FOR A PITCHOUT. HE CAN ALSO USE A PITCHOUT FOR A PICKOFF PLAY, GIVING THE BASEMAN A SPECIAL SIGNAL TO GET BETWEEN THE RUNNER AND THE BAG.

AND HERE IS THE PICKOFF IN ACTION!

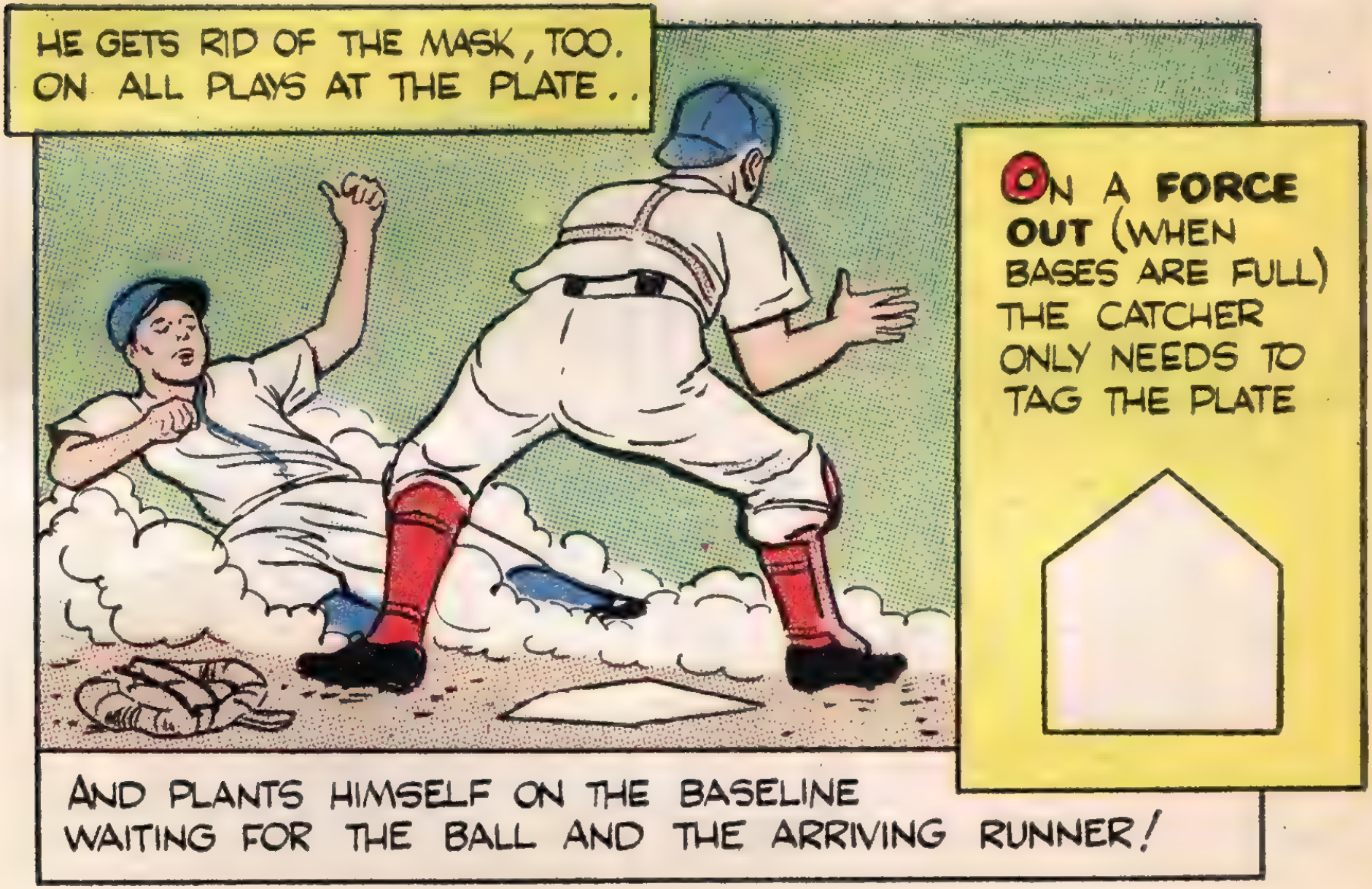

THE CATCHER CAN BLOCK LOW PITCHES BY GOING TO HIS KNEES
AND WIDE ONES BY MAKING A LUNGE FROM THE CATCHER'S BOX
BEING WELL COVERED WITH PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT, A SMART CATCHER USES IT TO THE UTMOST!

IN GOING AFTER BUNTS, THE CATCHER SHOULD FLING OFF HIS MASK..

AND USE HIS MITT TO STOP THE BALL AND SHOVEL IT TO THE THROWING HAND



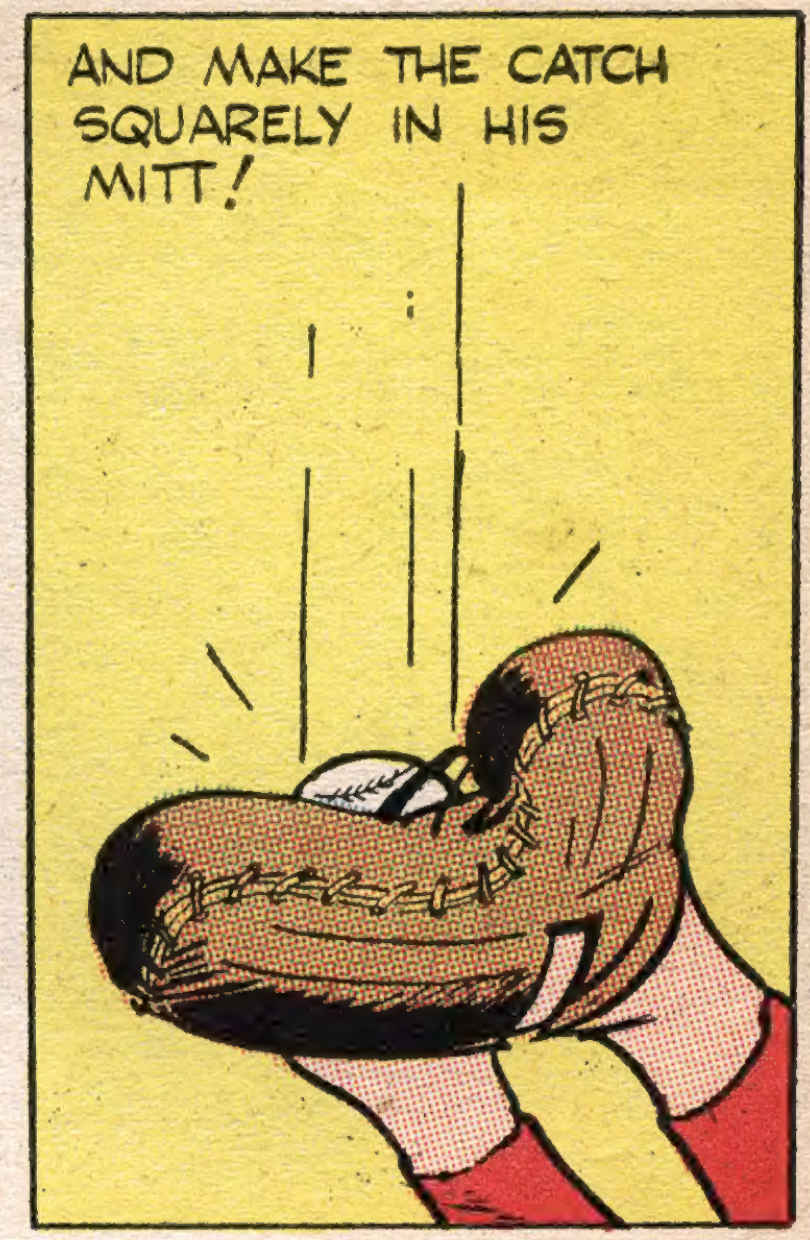
THAT PROCESS APPLIES WHEN FIELDING ALL LOOSE BALLS


HE GETS RID OF THE MASK, TOO. ON ALL PLAYS AT THE PLATE..
ON A FORCE OUT (WHEN BASES ARE FULL) THE CATCHER ONLY NEEDS TO TAG THE PLATE
AND PLANTS HIMSELF ON THE BASELINE WAITING FOR THE BALL AND THE ARRIVING RUNNER!

CATCHING **POP FOULS** IS AN ART IN ITSELF. THE CATCHER LEARNS INSTINCTIVELY TO GUESS THEIR GENERAL DIRECTION

AND THEN GO AFTER THEM!

HE MUST GET UNDER THE BALL, ALLOWING FOR ANY BREEZE OR TRICKY BACKSPIN...


AND MAKE THE CATCH SQUARELY IN HIS MITT!

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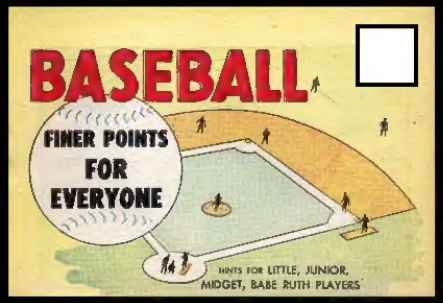
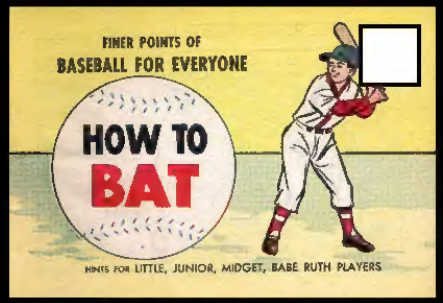
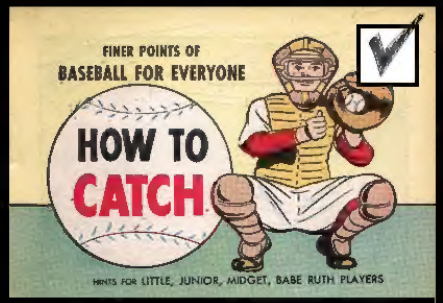
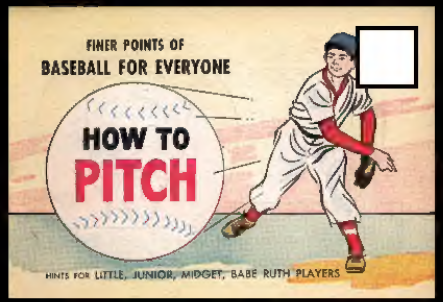
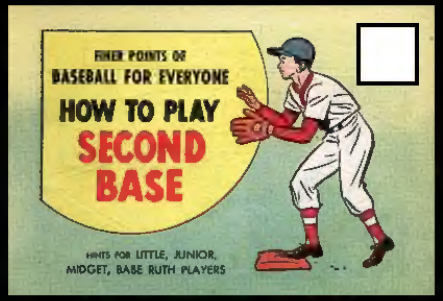
Kids! Collect them all!

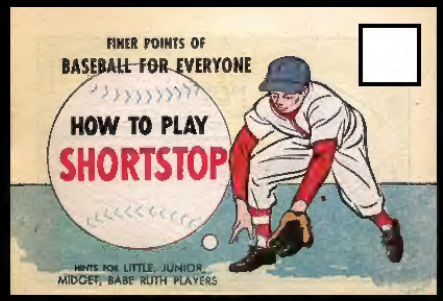


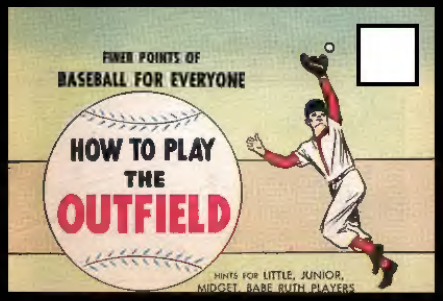


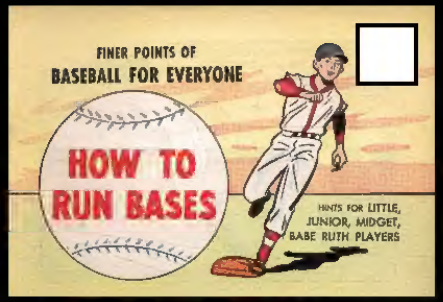


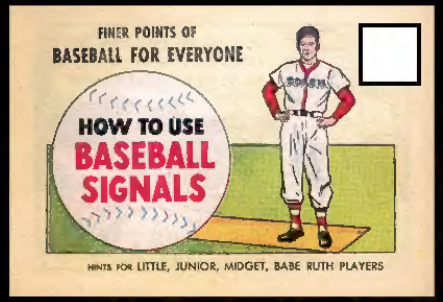












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